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Arnold Schwarzenegger
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October 10, 2006

To: All Interested Parties:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) will hold a workshop to solicit additional input and update stakeholders on the development of regulations prohibiting the sale of non-RoHS compliant electronic devices in California.

Restrictions on the Use of Heavy Metals in Covered Electronic Devices (RoHS): R – 2006 – 06

The workshop will be held at the following time and place:

Date:	November 9, 2006
Time:	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Location:	CalEPA Building Byron Sher Auditorium 1001 "I" Street, 2 nd Floor Sacramento, California 95814
Remote Videoconference Location:	DTSC Regional Office, Glendale Auditorium 1011 North Grandview Avenue Glendale, CA 91201 (818) 551-2800

Note: Visitors must check in with security upon entering the CalEPA building and DTSC Regional Office. Attendees at the remote videoconference site will view the workshop on a live closed circuit television monitor and will be able to participate through the videoconference connection.

All interested parties are invited to participate in this public workshop. Please confirm your interest in attending the workshop by sending an e-mail notice indicating which workshop location you will be attending to Linda Sargent at LSargent@dtsc.ca.gov or Cindy Chain-Britton at CChainbr@dtsc.ca.gov, or by calling (916) 323-9219 or (916) 445-4413.

Interested participants who are unable to attend the workshop at any locations may monitor the workshop live through an audio webcast. The webcast link will be available on the Cal/EPA website at <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/>. Questions and comments may be submitted in real time by sending an e-mail during the workshop. DTSC staff will monitor e-mail received during the workshop and, as time allows, read and respond to them aloud. All questions and comments submitted via e-mail will be considered when DTSC finalizes the regulation proposal.

To request special accommodations for persons with disabilities, please contact Linda Sargent at (916) 323-9219 or LSargent@dtsc.ca.gov; or Cindy Chain-Britton at (916) 445-4413 or CChainbr@dtsc.ca.gov. Travel information is available at <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPAbldg/Location.htm>.

Notice to Hearing Impaired: To obtain additional information, use the California State Relay Service at 1-888-887-5378 (TDD). Ask them to contact Charles Corcoran at (916) 327-4499.

Background: Beginning in 2007, a California law will ban the sale of some electronic devices that contain certain hazardous substances. The Electronic Waste Recycling Act (EWRA), which was signed into law in September of 2003, requires the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to adopt regulations to prohibit covered electronic devices “from being sold or offered for sale” in California if they are prohibited from sale in the European Union (EU) under Directive 2002/95/EC because they contain certain heavy metals.

RoHS is an acronym for “Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances.” California’s RoHS law, which is found in section 25214.10 of the Health and Safety Code, applies only to a “covered electronic device,” which Public Resources Code section 42463 defined as “a video display device containing a screen greater than four inches, measured diagonally...identified in the regulations adopted by [DTSC] pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 25214.10.1 of the Health and Safety Code.” As of December, 2005, DTSC had identified eight categories of covered electronic devices in its regulations. The list of covered devices, which is found in subdivision (c) of Appendix X of chapter 11 of the California Code of Regulations, title 22, is as follows:

1. Cathode ray tube containing devices (CRT devices)
2. Cathode ray tubes (CRTs)
3. Computer monitors containing cathode ray tubes
4. Laptop computers with liquid crystal display (LCD)
5. LCD containing desktop
6. Televisions containing cathode ray tubes
7. Televisions containing liquid crystal display (LCD) screens
8. Plasma televisions

The EWRA will restrict the use of lead, mercury, cadmium, and hexavalent chromium in electronic devices sold in California.

Directive 2002/95/EC was amended on August 18, 2005 to add maximum concentration values (MCVs) for the six restricted substances. DTSC will incorporate the EU's MCVs for lead, mercury, cadmium, and hexavalent chromium in its regulations implementing the EWRA.

The EU included a number of exemptions from the MCVs in the annex to the original January 27, 2003, directive (2002/95/EC). DTSC's RoHS regulations will recognize any exemptions adopted by the EU for the use of lead, mercury, cadmium, or hexavalent chromium that apply to covered electronic devices.

DTSC will present the proposed RoHS regulations and solicit comments and suggestions from attendees.

Contact Information: If you have any further questions about this proposed emergency regulation, or wish to submit written comments, please contact Mr. Charles Corcoran at (916) 327-4499 or CCorcora@dtsc.ca.gov. Additionally, if you would like to receive electronic mail updates regarding the regulation proposal, or any resulting proposed regulations, you may subscribe to the DTSC list service for the Restrictions on the Use of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) at <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Listservs/dtsc/>. Written comments may be mailed to:

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